

# SOME STEPS TOWARD COMPREHENSIVE PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE \*

(*Abstract*)

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THE increase in numbers of mental patients in the state hospitals can be reduced only if we organize comprehensive psychiatric services. This would mean that we are in need of far more community psychiatric facilities, and especially in the large cities, than are available today. It means that we would have to have more in-patient services in general hospitals and also an expansion of psychiatric clinics and day-hospital facilities. Day-hospital treatment must be studied. If this study should show advantages over full hospitalization, then a general application of such day-hospitals is in order. Through the Community Mental Health Act, the Department of Mental Hygiene is trying to stimulate in-patient facilities for psychiatric patients in general hospitals and the organization of psychiatric clinics. Later on there will be an attempt to establish a working relationship between the state hospital system and the psychiatric facilities in the community.

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